



2024 Congressional Elections and Committee Makeup

Issue Brief

July 30, 2024

In November 2024, voters will elect 34 Senators and 435 members of the House. The outcome of the elections will greatly change the composition of several key committees for the clean energy sectors and will have significant impacts on energy policy for years to come.

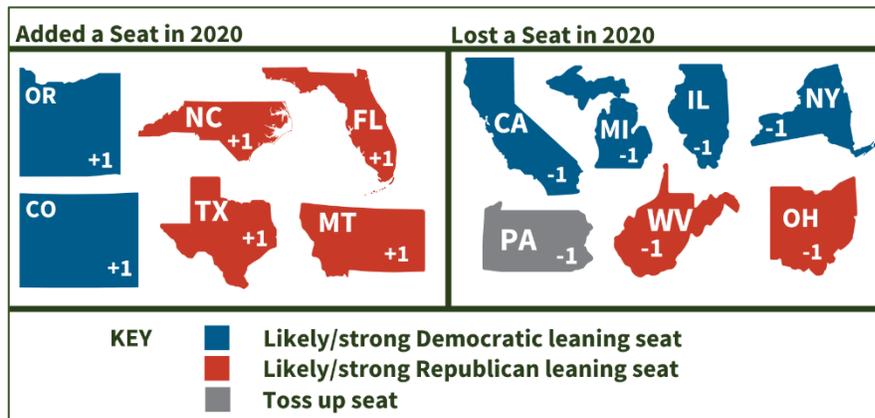
This issue brief covers the expected makeup of key committees and the effect of reapportionment and competitive races on the 2024 Congressional elections.

2024 Congressional Map

In 2024, the United States will face nationwide elections to decide the 47th U.S. president and who will occupy open seats in the House and the Senate. In total, [53 of the 535](#) members of Congress are not seeking reelection in 2024. Key factors to watch as we approach the 2024 elections include:

House of Representatives

2020 Census Reapportionment of House Districts



Data source: State reapportionment numbers come from [2020 U.S. Census data](#). State party election projections are pulled from the [270toWin 2024 House Election Consensus Forecast](#). These projections are a composite of ratings by [several forecasters](#).

2024 Congressional Map (Cont.)

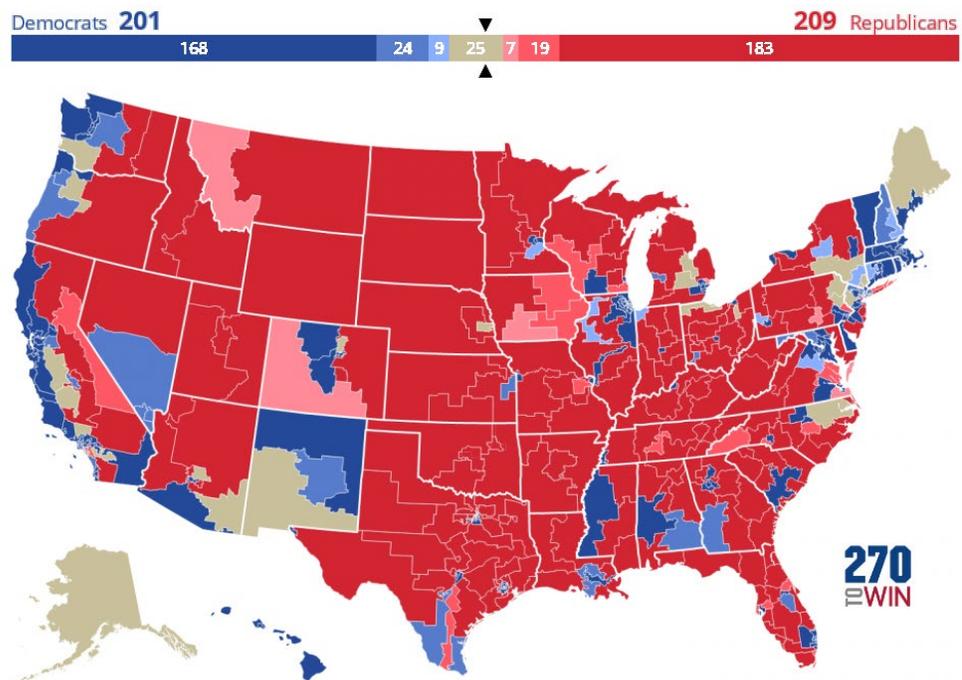
The 2024 election will be the first national election to occur since the 2020 census, which reapportioned House districts in several states.

This [reapportionment](#) has created several new districts with [competitive races](#). Although these reapportionment changes already impacted the 2022 House election, greater awareness of these changes is expected with the national election.

This reapportionment has caused six states to gain a seat and seven states to lose a seat, including the battleground state of Pennsylvania. Overall, Democratic-leaning states lost two seats and Republican-leaning states gained two seats after reapportionment.

Competitive Races for House Seats

Members of the House of Representatives are elected every two years, and all 435 seats are up for election this year. Many incumbent candidates have strong partisan support in their districts and are expected to win reelection. The remaining battleground districts, however, greatly impact the balance of power in the House. In addition, 45 of the 435 members of the House will not run for reelection this year, leaving many seats open in November.



Source: [270toWin 2024 House Election Consensus Forecast](#). This map is a composite of ratings by [several forecasters](#). Toss-up seats are denoted in gold.

Above is a map from [270toWin](#) that compiles a variety of resources to determine competitiveness of different districts in the House of Representatives. This graphic reveals that there are only a few districts in which there is uncertainty over which party will win the seat. As a result, whichever party wins the greatest number of competitive districts will likely be the party to win the House.

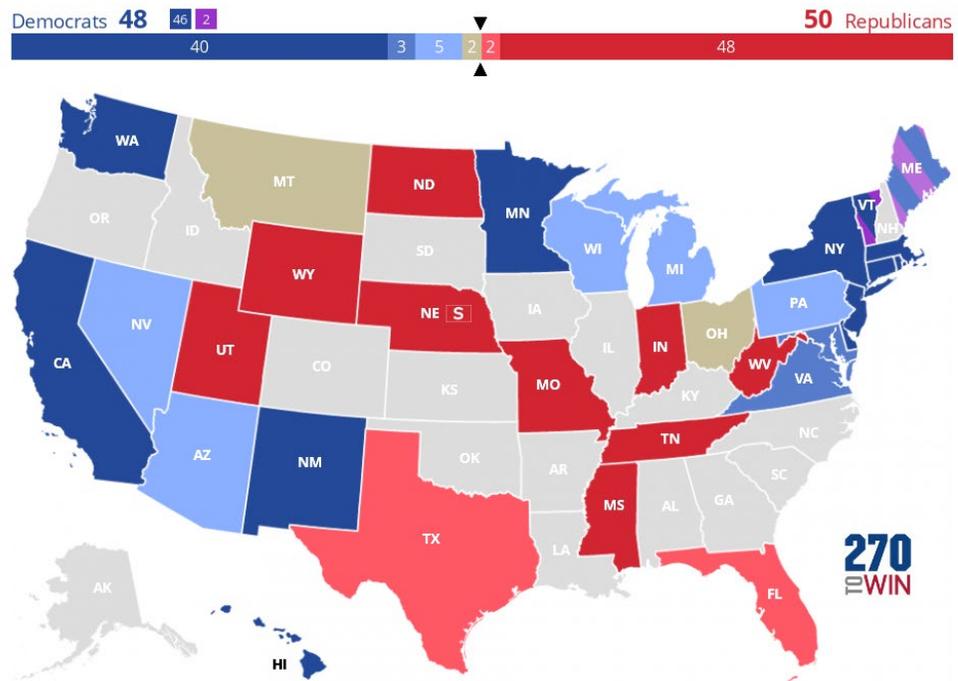
**2024
Congressional
Map:
Reapportionment
and Elections
(Cont.)**

Senate

Competitive Races for Senate Seats

Senators are elected every six years on a staggered basis, with one third of the chamber running for election every two years. Eight of the 34 Senators up for reelection in 2024 are retiring or otherwise leaving office.

In a regular term, 33 Senate seats would be up for reelection. This year there are [34 seats](#) up for reelection due to a special election in [Nebraska](#) after former Senator Ben Sasse (R) resigned from the Senate in 2023. This number is subject to increase to 35 if former President Donald Trump and Senator J.D. Vance (R-OH) win the presidential election.



Source: [270toWin 2024 Senate Election Consensus Forecast](#). This map is a composite of ratings by several forecasters. Toss-up seats are denoted in gold.

Above is a map from 270toWin that compiles a variety of resources to determine competitiveness of different [Senate seats](#). According to this graphic, competitive races in Montana and Ohio will be key to determining the makeup of the 119th Senate. The majority of Senate seats up for election (23 out of 34) [are currently held](#) by Democrats or Independents.

**119th
Congressional
Committee
Makeup
(Cont.)**

The coming election is set to bring many changes to the committees that are important to BCSE members. **Of note, 13 of the House Energy and Commerce Committee’s 52 members will be retiring or leaving office in January. Both the Senate Finance Committee and the Environment and Public Works Committee will also have three of their members retire or otherwise leave office in the fall.**

Below is a breakdown of the committees BCSE engages with most, detailing how their makeup may change in the 119th Congress:

Senate Agriculture Committee

The Senate Agriculture Committee focuses on policy surrounding agriculture, food stamp programs, and rural electrification. Chair Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) will be retiring at the end of this term.

The Development and Energy Subcommittee is the subcommittee of greatest importance for BCSE members. One member on this subcommittee, Mike Braun, will be retiring, opening this seat for a new member.



Competitive Races

According to [270toWin](#), 1 of the races for the 6 committee seats that are up for election will be competitive.

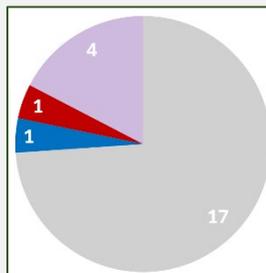
Leadership



Debbie Stabenow (D-MI)
Current Chair
Retiring



John Boozman (R-AR)
Current Ranking Member
Not up for reelection



Retirements

- 1** Republican retiring or leaving office
- 1** Democrat retiring or leaving office
- 4** additional seats up for election
- 17** seats not up for election

Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee

The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee helps formulate policies surrounding energy and land use. If legislation is introduced in the 119th Congress to revise or revoke provisions of the Inflation Reduction Act, that legislation will be considered by the Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

Chair Joe Manchin (I-WV) will be retiring at the end of this term. Although Ranking Member John Barrasso (R-WY) is expected to win reelection, he has decided to pursue a position as the [party whip](#) instead of resuming his leadership position on the Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

Some of the most important subcommittees for BCSE members include the Subcommittee on Energy; the Subcommittee on Water and Power; and the Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forest, and Water.

Competitive Races

According to [270toWin](#), **none** of the races for the 8 committee seats that are up for election will be competitive. Senator Manchin's seat is expected to change from being held by an Independent to a Republican.

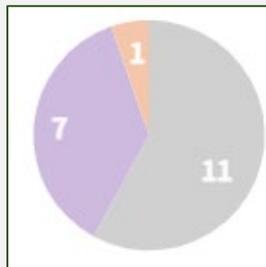
Leadership



Joe Manchin (I-WV)
Current Chair
Retiring



John Barrasso (R-WY)
Current Ranking Member
Expected to win reelection but leaving committee



Retirements

- 0** Republicans retiring or leaving office
- 0** Democrats retiring or leaving office
- 1** Independent retiring or leaving office
- 7** additional seats up for election
- 11** seats not up for election

Senate Environment and Public Works Committee

The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee is responsible for overseeing projects developed on federal lands and considering issues around U.S. environmental policy, waste disposal, air pollution, and more. Chair Thomas Carper (D-DE) is retiring at the end of this term.

Subcommittees that are important to BCSE members include the Subcommittee on Clean Air, Climate, and Nuclear Safety and the Subcommittee on Chemical Safety, Waste Management, Environmental Justice, and Regulatory Oversight.

Competitive Races

According to [270toWin](#), **none** of the races for the **6** committee seats that are up for election will be competitive.

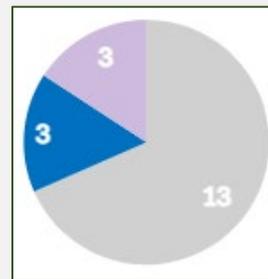
Leadership



Thomas Carper (D-DE)
Current Chair
Retiring



Shelly Moore Capito (R-WV)
Current Ranking Member
Not up for reelection



Retirements

- 0** Republicans retiring or leaving office
- 3** Democrats retiring or leaving office
- 3** additional seats up for election
- 13** seats not up for election

Senate Finance Committee

The Senate Finance Committee is responsible for controlling policies related to social security, tariffs, revenue, and trade agreements.

The subcommittees of importance for BCSE members include the Subcommittee on Energy, Natural Resources, and Infrastructure and the Subcommittee on International Trade, Customs, and Global Competitiveness.



Competitive Races

According to [270toWin](#), **1** of the races for the **11** committee seats that are up for election will be competitive.

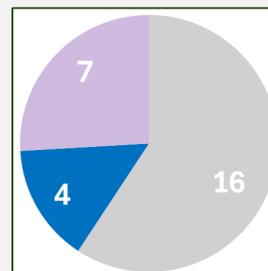
Leadership



Ron Wyden (D-OR)
Current Chair
Not up for reelection



Mike Crapo (R-ID)
Current Ranking Member
Not up for reelection



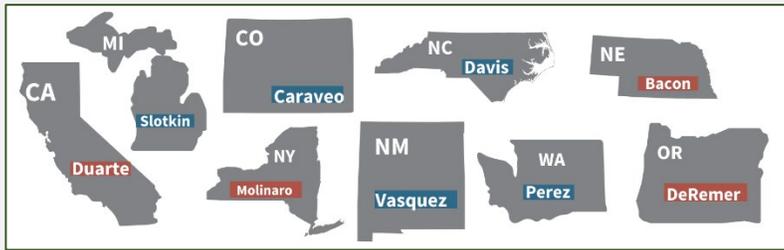
Retirements

- 0** Republicans retiring or leaving office
- 4** Democrats retiring or leaving office
- 7** additional seats up for election
- 16** seats not up for election

House Agriculture Committee

The House Agriculture Committee's main responsibilities are to develop agricultural policy and supply funding for research and development within the sector. Every five years, lawmakers must update and pass the Farm Bill, which [authorizes funding](#) for issues such as energy, horticulture, forestry, and more. The current Farm Bill was initially scheduled to pass in 2023 but will likely be delayed until the next Congress assumes office in 2025.

Specifically, energy policy is addressed by the Subcommittee on Commodity Markets, Digital Assets, and Rural Development.



Competitive Races

According to [270toWin](#), 9 of the races for the 54 committee seats will be competitive.

Leadership



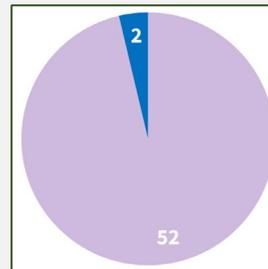
Glenn Thompson (R-PA)

Current Chair
Expected to win reelection



David Scott (D-GA)

Current Ranking Member
Expected to win reelection



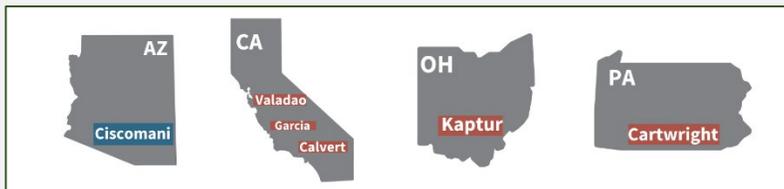
Retirements

0 Republicans retiring or leaving office
2 Democrats retiring or leaving office
52 members seeking reelection

House Appropriations Committee

The House Appropriations Committee is responsible for passing yearly appropriations bills and managing government funding.

It has twelve subcommittees that correspond to the twelve spending bills that must pass Congress every year. These subcommittees help to decide the funding for agencies such as the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Transportation, and the Department of Energy.



Competitive Races

According to [270toWin](#), 6 of the races for the 61 committee seats will be competitive.

Leadership



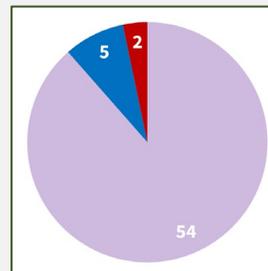
Tom Cole (R-OK)

Current Chair
Expected to win reelection



Rosa DeLauro (D-CT)

Current Ranking Member
Expected to win reelection



Retirements

2 Republicans retiring or leaving office
5 Democrats retiring or leaving office
54 members seeking reelection

House Energy and Commerce Committee

The House Energy and Commerce Committee develops policy on energy, telecommunications, environmental quality, food and drug safety, and more. This committee is responsible for developing most of the clean energy legislation that could come in the 119th Congress. Chair Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA) is retiring at the end of this term.

The subcommittees of particular importance for BCSE members are the Subcommittee on the Environment, Manufacturing, and Critical Minerals and the Subcommittee on Energy, Climate, and Grid Security. Four members retiring from this committee sit on the Subcommittee for Energy, Climate, and Grid Security.

Competitive Races

According to [270toWin](#), **none** of the races for the **52** committee seats will be competitive.

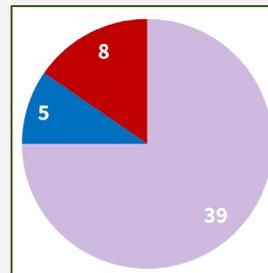
Leadership



Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA)
Current Chair
Retiring



Frank Pallone (D-NJ)
Current Ranking Member
Expected to win reelection



Retirements

8 Republicans retiring or leaving office
5 Democrats retiring or leaving office
39 members seeking reelection

House Natural Resources Committee

The House Natural Resources Committee oversees policy development related to U.S. land and water use, energy production, and mining. The committee specifically focuses on energy development and permitting.

Of note for BCSE members are the Subcommittees on Energy and Mineral Resources and the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations. These subcommittees help to decide much of the policies surrounding clean energy. Four members of the Energy and Mineral Resources Subcommittee and two members of the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee are not seeking reelection, respectively.



Competitive Races

According to [270-to-Win](#), **3** of the races for the **45** committee seats will be competitive.

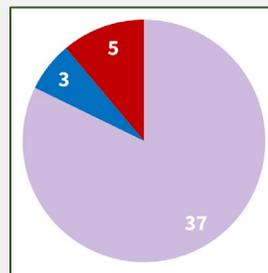
Leadership



Bruce Westerman (R-AR)
Current Chair
Expected to win reelection



Raul Grijalva (D-AZ)
Current Ranking Member
Expected to win reelection



Retirements

5 Republicans retiring or leaving office
3 Democrats retiring or leaving office
37 members seeking reelection

House Ways and Means Committee

The primary focus of the House Ways and Means Committee is to shape policy surrounding taxation, tariffs, revenue generation, and social security benefits.

Of note for BCSE members are the Tax and Trade subcommittees. With the [Tax Cuts and Jobs Act](#) set to expire in 2025, this committee will largely be responsible for shaping the policy. Two of the members retiring from this committee sit on the Trade Subcommittee.



Competitive Races

According to [270toWin](#), 2 of the races for the 43 committee seats will be competitive.

Leadership



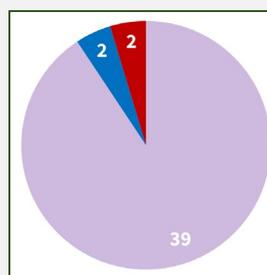
Jason Smith (R-MO)

Current Chair
Expected to win reelection



Richard Neal (D-MA)

Current Ranking Member
Expected to win reelection



Retirements

2 Republicans retiring or leaving office
2 Democrats retiring or leaving office
39 members seeking reelection

For more information on this topic:

[BCSE Issue Brief: Clean Energy Policy Priorities for the 119th Congress](#)

[BCSE Issue Brief: The “Best in Class” Trackers on IRA Implementation and Impact](#)

[270toWin Interactive Maps](#)

[Congressional Casualty List – Upcoming House and Senate Retirements](#)

[2020 Census: Number of Seats Gained and Lost in U.S. House of Representatives by State](#)

About the Author

This issue brief was authored by Allie Miner, BCSE's 2024 Jan Schori Summer Fellow. Allie is a rising senior at American University majoring in political science, with an interest in a career in energy policy.

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